



## A Publication of the Winnetka Ave. Church of Christ

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## WOULD YOU SAY THAT YOU ARE FAT?

It could have been a scene from a sit-com. A man was seated outside a row of changing rooms at the department store, waiting for his wife to try on some clothing. After some time she emerges wearing a new dress, with the price tags still dangling. With her arms extended, she asks of him, "dear, does this dress make me look fat?" The poor guy hesitated for a moment too long; her eyes flashed, and one could even say whisks of smoke came out of her ears as she huffed her way back to the changing room. Poor guy, it was a no win situation presented to him. But from this little vignette of life there may be a lesson that can be taken away. *"When I brought them to the land flowing with milk and honey, of which I swore to their fathers, and they eaten and filled themselves and grown fat, then they will turn to other gods and serve them; and they will provoke Me and break My covenant."* (Deuteronomy 31:20)



richness of His blessings, because currently you are enjoying an abundance? Have you forgotten how dark, lonely and empty your life was prior to your building a relationship with God? Think back, and never forget your purification from your former sins (see 2Peter 1:9)

We need not behave like spoiled, rotten children, lapping up His blessings to our heart's content, then forgetting that without Him, we would be nothing. Not being an ingrate, rather holding on to an attitude of gratitude; which should come easy once we awaken to the fact that we don't deserve what God showers down upon us day by day (see James 1:17). We constantly need to be of the mind to offer up thanks to God for all that has been provided; in good times

as well as in lean times. *When times are good, be happy; when times are bad, consider this: God has made the one as well as the other. Therefore, no one can discover anything about their future.*" (Ecclesiastes 7:14)

Again let us not be ingrates, but recognize all with which we have been blessed. Apart from the spiritual tremendous blessings, consider our families, employment, health, brethren, measure of wealth and every other significant blessing can be traced back to God; let us therefore be thankful and not take God for granted. *"For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks..."* (Romans 1:21)

Ungratefulness is the product of an individual (or people) who have grown selfish and fat (spiritually speaking), and is a very real insult to the One in whom we move, exist and have our very being. Please don't be offended but take some time, reflect, then ask yourself, "am I fat?" (wbc)

God had greatly poured out His blessings on the Israelites, but once they had been established in the land of Canaan, they had in essence grown fat. They had forgotten all about God; just as God had foreshown. Repeated throughout the book of Judges one finds the following, *"In those days there was no king in Israel; and everyone did what was right in his own eyes."* (21:25) Even during the time of the kings, Israel forgot God as the source of life and prosperity. They grew accustomed to their abundance. They had convinced themselves they could function just fine without God. In short they had grown fat.

Would you say that you are fat? Have you become complacent? Taken for granted the blessings of God? Have you forgotten what it is like to be without God in your life, with the

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